

REMARKS

The remarks below are in response to an Office Action mailed on April 3, 2007. In the Office Action, a restriction requirement was asserted based on the following allegedly separate inventions: Group I (Claims 1-5); Group II (Claims 6-16); Group III (Claims 17-19); Group IV (Claims 20-40); Group V (Claims 44-56); Group VI (Claims 57-63); and Group VII (Claims 64-66). In addition, it was alleged that several species corresponding to the figures enumerated in paragraph 7 of the Office Action are separate and distinct.

Without agreeing with the propriety of the restriction and election requirement, Applicant's attorney hereby elects Group II (Claims 6-16) which read upon the alleged species of Figures 15 and 16. The remaining Claims 1-5 and 17-66 have been withdrawn from consideration.

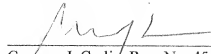
CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks and amendments presented above, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims of the present invention are in condition for allowance. It is respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued in due course. The Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present application.

If an appropriate payment does not accompany or precede this submission, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees, such as under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, including any petition for extension of time, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1225 (RMI-5707CIP4CON6).

Respectfully submitted,

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